REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 26, 2005, has been received and carefully noted. The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. Claims 14-19 are presently pending in the application, and respectfully are submitted for consideration.

Claims 14-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,218,713 (Hammer et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,153,909 (Beckle et al.). The Office Action took the position that Hammer taught all the features of independent claim 14, except receiving, with the second process from the first process, a notification that the requested service concerns a service to be refreshed. The Office Action then alleged that Beckle taught those features of the claims missing from Hammer. Applicant respectfully traverses the obviousness rejection and submits that the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all the features of any of the presently pending claims.

Claim 14, upon which claims 15-19 are dependent, recites a procedure for interprocess data transfer in a telephone exchange system in which processes transmit messages between themselves in order to provide services between processes and in which a first process requests a service from a second process. Based on the request, the second process starts providing the service to the first process and terminates the service when a predetermined condition is fulfilled. The procedure includes receiving with the second process from the first process a service request including service parameters and a

notification that the requested service concerns a service to be refreshed. The procedure also includes saving, with the second process, the service parameters. The procedure also includes receiving with the second process from the first process a service refresh request without any service parameters. The service refresh request relates to the previously requested service. The procedure also includes refreshing the service in accordance with the service refresh request and the saved service parameters when the first process wishes the service to be continued or reactivated.

As discussed in the specification, examples of the present invention enable the refreshment of a service at any time. Refreshment of a service may be performed even when the service is not in use. In failure and overload conditions, services may be removed and reintroduced in a simplified manner. Further, the service also may be refreshed while the service is being used. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references of Hammer and Beckle fail to disclose or suggest all the features of any of the presently pending claims. Therefore, Hammer and Beckle fail to provide the critical and unobvious advantages discussed above.

Hammer relates to a distributed data management mechanism for handling a data stream. Hammer describes providing management of data with minimum data transfer between processes executing work requests. Referring to Figure 1 of Hammer, inter process communication facility (IPCF) 30 is provided within processor A and processor B at 30 and 32, respectively. Communication between processes A and B is performed by sending and receiving messages over a connection between each other as established

by IPCF 30. Figure 2 of Hammer shows a requestor process 50 that sends a work request and a server process 52 that serves the work request. Data from the work request messages may be saved in a data storage, such as requestor storage 58. The work request contains an actual command and any parameters. When server process 52 is finished with the work request, and all data has been transferred, server process 52 presents a final Send Response verb to IPCF 57 that transfers data structures to IPCF 55 local to requestor process 50. Requestor process 50 generates a response note that is placed on queue 54 for requestor process 50. In a PASS mode, the data access control function makes an intermediate copy of the data sent in storage available to either IPCF involved in the communication so that the sender's storage is available for reuse immediately. The sending program, or requestor process 50, desires to reuse this storage immediately and not have to wait until receiving program 52 completes working on the data.

Beckle relates to resource control and data handling for central office based automatic call distributors. An automatic call distributor (ACD) system arrangement provides resource control and call event data processing services for a plurality of ACD systems. According to Beckle, a special event and control link processor (ECL) provides end-user call event data processing services and end-user resource control to one or more management information system (MIS) data processors. The ECL receives, partitions, and transmits call event messages to one of the MIS processors, and screens resource control messages from the MIS processors. A message is sent using an interface arrangement between the ECL and the recipient MIS processor that establishes a virtual

link, and periodically executes a hand shaking protocol over that link for ensuring that the link is still operational. Referring to Figures 1 and 2 of Beckle, event link control process 1450 uses a "heartbeat" hand shaking protocol to monitor the status of event message links. This protocol uses heartbeat/keep alive messages to verify communication paths between ECL 1000 and SM 2500 and MIS processors 3000, 3100 and 3200.

Applicant submits that the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest receiving, with the second process from the first process, a service refresh request without any service parameters, the service refresh request relates to the previously requested service, and refreshing wherein the service in accordance with the saved service parameters when the first process wishes the service to be continued. Applicant submits that the cited references fail to disclose or suggest refreshing a service by sending a service refresh request without any service parameters where the service request relates to the previously requested service.

The Office Action alleged that the discussion in Hammer of "a copy of data from the sender (first process) is available in sender's storage for reuse later" may be considered as teaching "the first process wishes the service to be continued without any service parameters since the service parameters is (*sic*) available for reuse stored in the storage," or because the service parameters are already in storage. Applicant submits that, even though the service parameters may be stored according to Hammer, the feature of a second process receiving a service refresh request is not disclosed or suggested.

Further, the Office Action states that Hammer does not teach receiving with the

second process from the first process a notification that the requested service concerns a service to be refreshed. Applicant submits that Beckle fails to disclose or suggest at least this feature missing from Hammer. The Office Action alleged that Beckle taught a notification that the requested service concerns a service to be refreshed because Beckle describes "an originator of a keep alive message sets a loop flag to false or zero value and send the message to a receiver." Applicant submits that Beckle, as discussed above, describes that the keep alive protocol is used to monitor the status of event message links. The protocol of Beckle uses the heartbeat messages to verify whether the communication paths between the ECL and the MIS processors are still operational. Applicant submits that the heartbeat messages of Beckle fail to disclose or suggest service requests without service parameters and that the heartbeat messages are not used to refresh any service.

Moreover, the Office Action states that "a control processor complex (CPC) and a special Event and Control Link Processor (ECL)" teaches a second process that provides end-user call event data processing and requested resource allocation changes services "tone or more management information system (MIS) processors" (emphasis added) that teaches a first process. Applicant believes the Office Action meant to state "to one or more MIS processors." Clarification, however, is requested. Applicant submits that Beckle fails to disclose or suggest receiving with the ECL from the MIS processors a service refresh request without any service parameters, and the service refresh request relating to the previously requested service. Beckle describes the ECL using a heartbeat handshaking protocol to monitor the status of event message links. The protocol of

Beckle uses heartbeat messages to verify communication paths between the ECL and the MIS processors. Applicant submits that the heartbeat messages are not used to refresh a service but are used to monitor the status of event message links. The address of the recipient MIS processor also fails to disclose or suggest service parameters because service parameters, as recited in the claims, refer to a service itself, as opposed to a process, or address, that provides the service, as described in Beckle.

Applicant also submits that the CPC and ECL along with the MIS processors of Beckle fail to disclose or suggest a second process and a first process, as recited in the claims. As noted above, the ECL sends call event data messages to the MIS processors. The call event data message includes the address of the recipient MIS processor. Beckle, however, fails to disclose or suggest receiving with the second process from the first process, a service request including service parameters and a notification that the requested service concerns a service to be refreshed.

In contrast, claim 14 recites "receiving with the second process from the first process a service request comprising service parameters and a notification that the requested service concerns a service to be refreshed" and "refreshing the service in accordance with the service refresh request and the saved parameters when the first process wishes the service to be continued or reactivated." Applicant submits that the cited references fail to disclose or suggest at least these features of the presently pending claims.

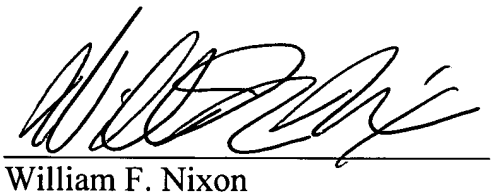
Applicant also submits that the dependent claims are allowable for the reasons discussed above, and because they recite additional patentable subject matter. Thus, the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all the features of the presently pending claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the obviousness rejection of claims 14-19 be withdrawn.

Applicant further submits that each of claims 14-19 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that all of claims 14-19 be allowed, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



William F. Nixon
Registration No. 44,262

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

WFN:cct